

Page 12, last paragraph bridging to page 13:

In the method of processing customer's order, it is sufficient to independently display a set of order for every customer when it is in a slow condition, that is, there are a small number of customers at the restaurant. However, when it is a peak time zone, that is, there are many customers in the restaurant, if articles are prepared for every customer, the efficiency is relatively low because the same articles are prepared independently. On the other hand, if a cook tried to combine plural orders to prepare the same articles, this is a load on the cook to know how many articles are to be prepared. Moreover, if articles have been previously prepared with forecast, there is the possibility that cool articles may be served. Accordingly, in this invention, the displayed image is changed between a slow condition and a peak time zone condition. At a peak time zone or in a peak time condition, the predicted number of articles per unit time interval is calculated and displayed.

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In step 53, the CPU 11 counts the number of orders of each article of which peak time zone control code is "one" for previous thirty minutes to calculate the number of articles to be prepared every five minutes and every ten minutes for prediction and displays the number of the articles to be prepared every five minutes and every ten minutes as shown in Fig. 4. In step 55, if all articles in the set of order have been processed, processing ends or returns to a not-shown main routine. In step 55, if all articles in the set of order have not been processed, processing returns to step 51 to process the following ordered article.

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As mentioned, in the method of processing customer's orders, there are steps: (a) inputting and storing setting data for every article in the setting memory 14; (b) inputting and storing order data of ordered articles in the data memory 13; (c) predicting quantities of the ordered articles in response to a command signal generated in step 53 from the data of sold articles from the data memory 13 for last thirty minutes; and

displaying the quantities for every the article in accordance with the setting data in response to the command signal in step 53. Moreover, the clock circuit 18 measures the present time; and the CPU 11 judges whether the present time is within a peak time zone to generate the command signal.

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In step 75, the CPU 11 counts the number of orders of each article for which peak time zone control code is "one", for previous thirty minutes to calculate the number of articles to be prepared every five minutes and every ten minutes for prediction and displays the number of the articles to be prepared every five minutes and every ten minutes as shown in Fig. 4. In step 77, if all articles in the set of order have been processed, processing ends or returns to a not-shown main routine. In step 77, if all articles in the set of order have not been processed, processing returns to step 71 to process the following ordered article.

In step 76, that is, at the slow time zone, as shown 20 in Fig. 3, the CPU 11 displays the names of ordered articles and the number of ordered articles for every set of order in order of time. In step 77, if all articles in the set of order have been processed, processing ends or returns to the not-shown main routine.

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In step 94, that is, in the slow time zone, as shown in Fig. 3, the CPU 11 displays the names of ordered articles and the number of ordered articles for every set of order in order of time. Then, in step 95, if all articles in the set of orders have been processed, processing ends or returns to the not-shown main routine.

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In the method according to the third embodiment, there are steps of: (a) inputting and storing setting data for every article; (b) inputting and storing order data of ordered articles; (c) predicting quantities of the ordered articles in response to a command signal; (d) displaying the quantities every the articles in accordance with the setting data

in response to the command signal and (e) providing a monitor switch responsive to an operator for generating the command signal.

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As mentioned above, in the customer's order processing apparatus according to the fourth embodiment, the peak time zone control codes indicative of either displaying or not displaying the predicted number of articles to be prepared or to be sold in the article setting table. When an operator judges that it is in the peak time condition, the operator can set the peak time display operation with the rotary switch 20, so that the predicted number of articles are displayed instead the display image representing respective sets of orders. Therefore, it becomes easy to prepare articles and the efficiency of cooking can be increased. Moreover, at the slow time zone, it is possible to reduce a loss by previously preparing.

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In the method according to the fourth embodiment, there are steps of: (a) inputting and storing setting data for every article; (b) inputting and storing order data of ordered articles; (c) predicting quantities of the ordered articles in response to a command signal; (d) displaying the quantities of every one of the articles in accordance with the setting data in response to the command signal and (e) providing the rotary switch 20 responsive to the operator for generating the command signal.

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In step 131, the CPU 11 counts the number of customers, that is, increments the number of customers in response to the total key and decrements the number of customers in response to the served key 83. In the following step 132, the CPU 11 checks whether thirty minutes has passed. If no, processing returns to step 131. If yes, processing proceeds to the step 133, where the CPU 11 checks whether the number of customers exceeds the reference number 121 of customers in step 133. If the number of customers exceeds the reference number (R) 121 of customers, processing proceeds

to step 134 where the CPU 11 checks whether a flag indicative of a peak time zone has been set. If the flag has been set, processing returns to step 131. If no, processing proceeds to step 135 where the CPU 11 reads and sets the present time as the peak time zone start time in the table 122 and sets the flag.

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In step 133, if the number of customers does not exceed the reference number (R) 121 of customers, processing proceeds to step 136 where the CPU 11 checks the flag. If the flag has been set, processing proceeds to step 137 and reads and sets the present time as the peak time zone end time in the table 122 and processing ends. As a result, the peak time zone start time and end time are stored in the table 122 which represent the predicted peak time zone. The CPU 11 uses the peak time zone start time and end time similar to the second embodiment, wherein the peak time zone start time 61 and the peak time zone end time 62 shown in Fig. 6 are replaced with the predicted peak time zone 122 shown in Fig. 12.

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In step 159, that is, at the slow time zone, as shown in Fig. 3, the CPU 11 displays the names of ordered articles and the number of ordered articles for every set of order in order of time. In step 160, if all articles in the set of order have been processed, processing ends or returns to the not-shown main routine.

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In step 223, the CPU 11 counts the number of orders of each article for which peak time zone control code is "one" for previous thirty minutes to calculate the number of articles to be prepared every five minutes and every ten minutes for prediction and displays the number of the articles to be prepared every five minutes and every ten minutes as shown in Fig. 4. In step 225, if all articles in the set of order have been processed, processing ends or returns to a not-shown main routine. In step 225, if all